

struggle. The indications are that the British have inflicted their greatest loss of the morning, when along a front of about four miles they attacked the German second line, capturing several important positions.

The infantry which went into action shortly before dawn expected a most determined resistance and were prepared to pay high toll in casualties. Their experiences during many nights' trench raids had served as excellent preparation for their daring moonlight assault where coordination was necessary for success. An unexpected small number of wounded came into the clearing stations during the morning hours. Many were being taken to dressing stations, where the machine gunners, who acted as litter bearers.

"These prisoners said that an attack had been expected and that the assault before daylight came as a complete surprise. The British rushed Trones Wood, where the Germans had previously regained part possession. Through the tangled and overgrown trenches the British swept in the face of persistent sniping and machine gun fire.

"The Germans, building barricades and digging in, made a desperate resistance, but were eventually forced to yield, confident that coming counter attacks would effect a rescue. Among them were wounded who, unable to stand, were still able to fire their rifles.

#### Advance on Big Sweep.

"The British advance was made on a frontal sweep up the main axis of the second line and the villages of Basentin-le-Petit, Basentin-le-Grand and Longueval. It appears that there is only one point in the German line where the machine gunners have not been put out of action.

"For a space of 200 yards the British swept past a section of the trench where the Germans refused to yield, held out desperately for some time in a fashion characteristic of the fighting on the Somme.

"Some of the prisoners taken today belonged to a battalion from different divisions rushed to the scene since July 1. They seemed to lack the usual efficient organization.

"Where the British found the going good they carried their attack beyond the second line, taking more and more prisoners and seeking to join higher points on the ridge. Against these advancing parties the Germans began to develop stronger resistance.

"The success of the morning has won for the British a depth of three or four miles since July 11, means an attacking position which is obviously conforming to the German line in the Toleval sector into a bad salient."

#### "NOT KNOCKOUT BLOW."

Design Is to Wear Down Germans, Says London Newspaper.

LONDON, July 15.—The new British advance on the western front provides the theme for exultant comment in the morning papers.

"The situation of the German army is very critical," declares the *Telegraph*. "The Daily News, under the headline 'The Breaking Lining up,' says: 'The comparative ease with which the second line has been forced lends countenance to the belief that they were not as strong as the first line undoubtedly were. It may be that the worst and heaviest task was achieved with the carrying of the first line, which the Germans are said to have held to be impregnable.'

"The important thing is to retain in true perspective the nature and objects of this western offensive. It is not intended to be a knockout blow, and if the German lines do crumble occasionally that will be a success not contemplated in the original design. That design is to wear down the enemy, partly by the mere slaughter and capture of his effective and partly by forcing him to keep his slender reserves continually in motion to meet incessant attacks delivered in widely distant areas. As far as can be judged, this plan of operations is succeeding."

While the editors are optimistic, they generally add the customary warning to the British public not to attach too much importance to this kind of the *Express* comments.

"It is necessary once more to warn the over-optimistic not to underestimate the enemy's capabilities of resistance. The Germans are brave, stubborn and a highly organized people bred in traditions of war. Our goal is almost in sight, but the sound of the fight will be the hardest."

#### GERMAN ATTACKS FAIL.

French Hold Their Ground in the Verdun Sector.

PARIS, July 15.—Violent German attacks launched last night against French positions along the entire Verdun front were all repulsed.

In both sectors the Meuse German troops were flung against the French lines.

Four separate assaults were delivered northeast of the Verdun sector of the Meuse, in the Champs wood and in Apremont forest. All broke down under the fire of the French infantry and machine gunners and the curtain fire of the French artillery.

In the sector of Fleury, north of Souville, there was a bombardment of great intensity.

#### IRISH LEADER ARRESTED.

Laurence Ginnell, M. P., Accused of Making False Pretences.

LONDON, July 15.—Laurence Ginnell, Irish member of Parliament, who addressed many questions in the House of Commons to Ministers during the Irish rebellion and invariably alleged that his countrymen who had been arrested were mistreated, was himself arrested this morning. The charge is that he attempted by false pretences to obtain admission to the detention barracks at Knutsford, where Irish prisoners are being held.

Mr. Ginnell was arraigned in the Bow street police court, and remanded until July 20. He was released under bond. Prosecutor Bodkin said in outlining the case against Mr. Ginnell that he had been found at the detention camp when asking permission, under the name of McFingie, to see Irish prisoners. Mr. Ginnell protested to the Magistrate against his arrest, saying that the name McFingie was Irish for Ginnell.

#### CENSORSHIP IN SPAIN.

Action Believed Due to General Railway Strike.

MADRID, July 15.—The Government has established a military censorship of all press despatches.

Martial law was declared throughout Spain on Thursday as a result of the operation of lines of the Northern system. A Madrid despatch on the night of July 13 said that a general strike had been announced for July 15.

#### VERMIN

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## The Week in the War.

SUNDAY, JULY 9.—British advance half a mile near the Somme. French gain German positions near Hardecourt. Russians gain in drive on Kovel.

MONDAY, JULY 10.—Russians gain fifteen miles in Volhynia. French win positions south of the Somme. Germans make violent counter attacks against British line.

TUESDAY, JULY 11.—French storm hill one mile from Peronne. German counter attacks drive back British. Russians battle on Stokhovo in fight for Kovel.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12.—British capture German first line of trenches on front of nearly eight miles. Bitter fighting on Stokhovo continues as German reinforcements arrive.

THURSDAY, JULY 13.—British capture Mametz woods. Russians halted by Germans on Stokhovo. Mamahatum, fifty miles west of Erzerum, captured by Russians. Germans press nearer Souville, on Verdun front.

FRIDAY, JULY 14.—David Lloyd George, British Minister of War, declares allied victory is near. British advance north of the Somme. Russian council of Ministers leaves Petrograd for conference at field headquarters.

SATURDAY, JULY 15.—British army gains mile on four mile front along Somme. Russians launch new offensive against Turks in Armenia.

## ITALY AND GERMANY BREAK ANOTHER TIE

Agreement for Mutual Respect of Nationals Denounced by Rome.

State Department Officially Styles Submarine a Merchant Vessel.

Rome (via London), July 15.—The agreement that has been in effect between Germany and Italy providing for the mutual respect by the two nations of the rights of each other's subjects has been denounced by Italy, owing to the hostile attitude of Germany according to the *Gloire* *D'Italia* today. No convention now exists between the two nations, the newspaper declares.

A strong demand arose recently in the press and among the public for cancellation of the agreement and the situation is now such that the relations of Italy and Germany seem to have reached a greater tension than at any time since the war began.

Before leaving Rome in the spring of 1915 Prince von Bielow, then German Ambassador to Italy, concluded an agreement with the Italian Government under which, in case of war between Austria and Italy, Germany and Italy pledged themselves to respect the property and lives of their respective subjects. This meant for Germany a guarantee of several million dollars worth of properties in Italy held by her subjects, and for Italy a guarantee of 300,000 of her citizens still living in Germany.

Italy, according to official opinion here, has faithfully observed the agreement, but Germany has not. Germany has been guilty of "touching German property and freely allowing subjects of the German Empire to reside here. On the other hand, Germany is unofficially accused of violating the agreement in depriving Italians in Germany of their liberty of action, preventing Italians of military age residing in Belgium from leaving that country, suspending payments due to Italians and treating them as subjects of a hostile power.

Accordingly a popular demand was voiced for the abrogation of the agreement. The Italian Government, however, disregarding its provisions by Germany, has resulted in misunderstandings in allied nations regarding the situation, although their governments were aware of the true conditions and were convinced of the implicit loyalty of Italy to the Entente cause.

The Berlin Bankers Association, according to the *Steffani* News Agency, has circulated all banks in Germany, instructing them that henceforth by request of the German Government, foreign officials are to be treated as subjects of a belligerent state, in other words, that payments to Italians in Germany are to be stopped.

The German Foreign Office has officially informed the Italian Government through the Swiss Government that payment of workmen's pensions due Italians has been suspended.

## ALLIES DECIDE ON FINANCIAL PLAN

Conference in London Agrees Also on Coordination of War Supplies.

LONDON, July 15.—Regarding the allied finances held in London, the following official statement was issued today:

"Reginald McKenna, Chancellor of the Exchequer, with the Ministers of Finance of France, Russia and Italy held a series of conferences in London on Friday and Saturday, and in conjunction with the Ministers of Finance of the United Kingdom and France and Mr. Balfour, chief of the General Staff of Russia, discussed the financial measures necessary to meet the military and other requirements of the several Governments in the joint interests of the allied Powers. McKenna Wood, Financial Secretary of the Treasury, Lord Reading, Lord Chief Justice, and the governor of the Bank of England also attended.

"An agreement concerning the combined interests of the four Powers has been reached with the object of coordinating further their joint arrangements for supplies and financial matters. The financial agreements between the United Kingdom and France and Italy respectively have also been concluded. A decision with the Russian Minister of Finance will be initiated Monday.

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## 2,000 PRISONERS TAKEN IN 24 HOURS

10,000 Captured Since British Began Offensive, Is Official Report.

PUSH ON TO POZIERES

Berlin Admits Trones Wood and Other Gains by Foes.

LONDON, July 15.—The British offensive was resumed today and the War Office announced that at one point the Germans were forced back to their third line positions. The statement from the front follows:

Heavy fighting continued all day in the Pozieres-Guilemont section of the German second line, as a result of which further important successes have been gained by our troops.

East of Longueval, despite the enemy's desperate resistance, we captured the whole of Delville wood and repulsed a strong counter attack, with severe losses to the enemy.

North of Basentin-le-Grand our troops penetrated the German third line at the Bois de la Fausse, in which we obtained lodgment. In this neighborhood a detachment of the enemy was successfully accounted for by a squadron of dragon guards and a platoon of the cavalry since 1914.

West of Basentin-le-Grand we captured the whole wood of that name and repulsed a counter attack. Here among other prisoners we captured the commander of a Bavarian regiment with his whole staff.

East of Quilliers, where the advance has been made and our troops have fought their way to the outskirts of Pozieres.

During the past forty-eight hours our aeroplanes have been much hampered by the unfavorable weather. Throughout the whole of the 15th the clouds were seldom at a height above 500 feet. Despite this drawback much valuable work was done.

In one of our bombing raids an enemy train was derailed and a coach overturned, while in the aerial campaign the last twenty-four hours we destroyed three Fokkers, three biplanes and a four engine aeroplane. Corina forced another Fokker to land in a damaged condition. All our machines returned safely to our lines.

All continues to go well on the British front, and at one point we forced the enemy back to his third system of defense, more than four miles to the rear of his original front trenches at Pozieres and Mametz.

In the past twenty-four hours we have captured over 2,000 prisoners, including a regimental commander of the Third Guards Division, and the total number of prisoners taken by British and allied troops began now exceeds 10,000. Large quantities of war material also have fallen into our hands.

French Hold the Germans.

PARIS, July 15.—The War Office's afternoon statement follows:

On the left bank of the Meuse a German attack on the night of the 14th was repulsed. The enemy lost several tanks and a number of their trenches northeast of the Avocourt road were repulsed.

On the right bank of the river the artillery fight was sustained and intense in the sector of Fleury. We dispersed with infantry fire several reconnoitering parties of the enemy in Chapelle wood.

In the forest of Apremont several attempts of the Germans to make attacks were broken up by our curtain of fire.

The official communication issued by the War Office to night reads:

On the right bank of the Meuse the bombardment was very violent on both sides in the sector of Fleury. There was no event of importance on the rest of the front.

Belgian communication: Last night the Germans attempted an attack against our advanced posts in the neighborhood of Ouduvykenkerke. They were completely repulsed.

To-day our batteries of heavy guns carried out in the region of Het Ras a destructive fire against German works, which repulsed feebly.

Gained Some Ground.

BRUSSELS, July 15.—The German official bulletin concerning fighting on the western front says:

British attacks which followed the first sanguinary repulse suffered by the French on the night of the 14th, were repulsed by his forces massed behind Pozieres and Longueval. The enemy, in spite of the most severe bombardment, was unable to gain a line and gaining some ground. He also occupied Trones wood.

The attack has been stemmed, but the fighting has not ceased. The south of the Somme there was no infantry activity.

Aside from futile actions undertaken by small British detachments east of Arras, in the region of Angres, in the Neuville sector, and northeast of Arras, nothing of importance occurred on the rest of the front.

The test of today's army headquarters statement on operations along the eastern front is as follows:

Army group of Field Marshal von Hindenburg, in the region of the Somme, which attempted to cross the Dvina near Lennendae, northwest of Friedland, were repulsed.

Numerous bombs were dropped on railway stations on the Smorgon-Molodchichino line. These stations were busy at the time with a considerable traffic.

Army group of Prince Leopold. In the region of Skrobova parts of positions had been held by the enemy since the first attack on the morning of July 1 were recaptured as the result of our attacks. Eleven officers and more than 1,500 men were taken prisoners.

The situation is unchanged. Our aircraft squadrons achieved satisfactory results in their attacks on the troop transport station at Kiveri, northeast of Lutsk.

Army group of Gen. Count von Bothmer: There is nothing to report. Balkan front: The Bulgarian advance which attacked a Hungarian detachment post southwest of Glevell was repulsed. By the shelling of Gulemen, northeast of Lake Dolran, seven Greek civilians, among whom were four children, were killed.

Russians Admit Attacks.

PETROGRAD, July 15 (via London).—The Russian War Office announcement follows:

On Thursday evening the Germans, under cover of a violent fire, approached our barbed wire entanglements in the region of the village of Laubanchi, on the river Servitch, a tributary of the Niemen. They were repulsed by our artillery fire.

Verden show German troops opened a violent artillery fire against our lines eastward of Gorodichie (Baranovsk sector), after which the Germans took the offensive in the direction of the village of Skrobova, but were re-

## ADVICE!

BY EARL J. HADLEY

Staff Correspondent of THE EVENING SUN

Headquarters 6th Division, U. S. A.

McAllen, Tex., July 11.—The first section of the 23d Infantry of Brooklyn in command of Col. Frank H. Norton, detached at 10:30 p. m. on July 10, went into camp with the first battalion of the 74th of Buffalo, which reached camp last night.

First Field Artillery, which was detached at McAllen to-day, and the absence of the command of the 74th of Buffalo, which reached camp last night.

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